AUTODOC CLUB

How to change front wheel bearing on **BMW 3 Convertible (E46)** – replacement guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



This video shows the replacement procedure of a similar car part on another vehicle

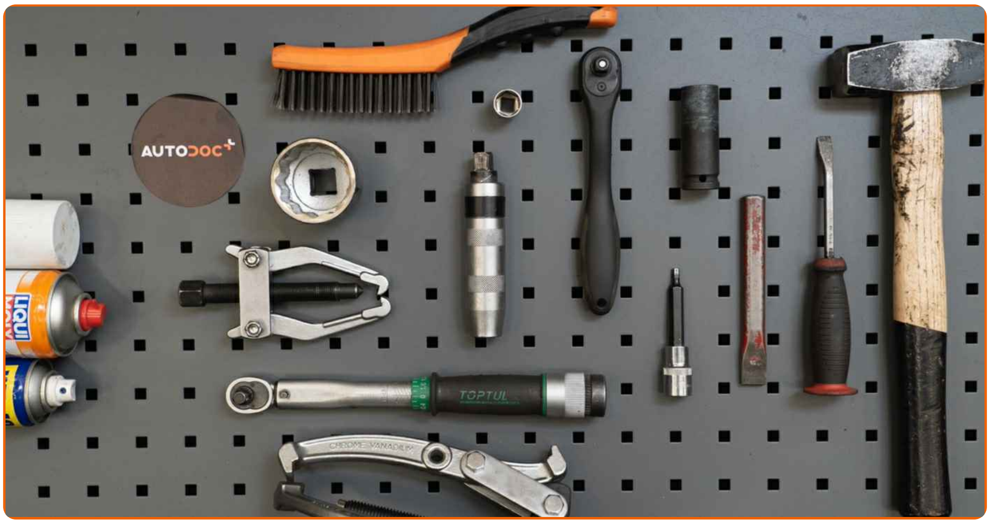
Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 323Ci 2.5, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 330Ci 3.0, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 320Ci 2.2, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 325Ci 2.5, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 318Ci 2.0, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 320Cd 2.0, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 330Cd 3.0

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

This tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for a similar car part on: BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 323i 2.5

REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – BMW 3 CONVERTIBLE (E46). TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 46
- HEX bit No.H6
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Tap wrench
- Hammer
- Impact screwdriver
- Universal puller
- 3-Arm Gear Puller
- Flat chisel
- Crow bar
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

AUTODOC recommends:

- Do not re-use the bearing assembly of your BMW 3 Convertible (E46) car.
- The wheel hub bearing replacement procedure is identical for both wheels on the same axle.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – BMW 3 CONVERTIBLE (E46). TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

1 Secure the wheels with chocks.

2 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



3 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

4 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. BMW 3 Convertible (E46)

5 Remove the wheel.



6 Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



7 Clean the brake caliper bracket fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



8 Unscrew the caliper bracket fastening. Use a drive socket #16. Use a tap wrench.



9 Remove the brake caliper together with its bracket.



Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Convertible (E46). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Tie the caliper to the suspension or to the body with a wire without disconnecting from the brake hose to prevent depressurization of the brake system.
- Make sure that the brake caliper is not hanging on the brake hose.
- Don't press the brake pedal after the brake caliper has been removed. As a result, the piston can fall out from the brake cylinder, and brake fluid leakage and depressurization of the system may occur.

10 Clean the brake disc fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



11 Unscrew the brake disc fastening. Use HEX No.H6. Use an impact screwdriver.



12 Remove the brake disc.



13 Remove the wheel hub nut cap. Use a crowbar. Use a hammer.



14 Unstake the wheel hub retaining nut. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



15

Unscrew the hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a tap wrench.



16

Remove the fastening nut.



17

Remove the wheel hub together with the bearing. Use 3-Arm Gear Puller.



18

Pull the bearing inner race out of the wheel hub. Use a universal puller.



19

Clean the hub bearing mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



20

Install the new wheel hub with a bearing. Use a drive socket #46. Use a hammer.



21

Install the fastening nut.



22

Tighten the wheel hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 290 Nm torque.



23

Restake the wheel hub retaining nut. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



24

Treat the wheel hub nut. Use copper grease.



25

Install the cap of the hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a hammer.



26

Install the brake disc.



27

Tighten the brake disc fastening. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 9 Nm torque.



28 Install the brake caliper together with its bracket.



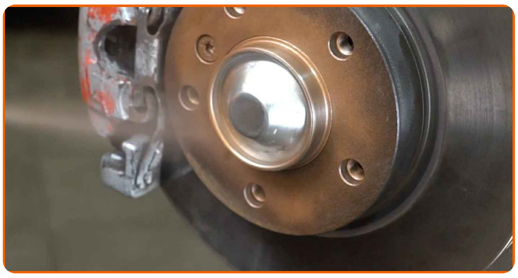
29 Tighten the brake caliper bracket. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



30 Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



31 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.



32 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Convertible (E46). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

33 Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. BMW 3 Convertible (E46)

34 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



35

Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



36

Remove the jacks and chocks.



Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Convertible (E46). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Without starting the engine, press the brake pedal several times until you feel significant resistance.

WELL DONE!

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DISCLAIMER:

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